

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/667,186

Examiner

Marc Jimenez

Applicant(s)

JENNER ET AL.

Art Unit

3726

*cn*

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 7/29/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-15 and 17-26.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.         .
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received:         .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date         .
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date         .
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                  |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>        </u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>        </u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                    | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                         |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>        </u> .  |

*Marc Jimenez*  
Marc Jimenez  
AU 3726  
10/7/04

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with J. Grant Houston on 10/7/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

**In the claims:**

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 23 (currently amended): An optical component manipulation system as described in claim 22, wherein the jaw [heating system] heater comprises a laser device that irradiates at least one of the jaws.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 2-4 and 6-15, the prior art does not teach or suggest an optical component manipulation system having first and second jaws, a first air bearing between the second jaw and a system frame, and a second air bearing between the second jaw and the system frame, in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

Regarding claim 5, the prior art does not teach or suggest an optical component

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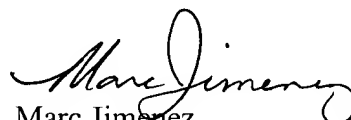
manipulation system having first and second stages, to which jaws, position detection systems, and actuators are attached, wherein each of the stages rides on a system frame on respective first and second air bearings, in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

Regarding claims 17-26, the prior art does not teach or suggest an optical component manipulation system having first and second opposed jaws, a system frame, a first air bearing between the second jaw and the system frame, and a second air bearing between the second jaw and the system frame, in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc Jimenez whose telephone number is (703) 306-5965. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 5:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (703) 308-1789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

  
Marc Jimenez  
Patent Examiner  
AU 3726

**MJ**  
October 7, 2004